

fostering public awareness and understanding, educating patients and their families about the congenital diaphragmatic hernia birth defect to improve their treatment and care, providing appropriate moral support, and encouraging people to become organ donors; and

Whereas volunteers engage in an annual national awareness event held on March 31, making that day an appropriate time to recognize National Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 31, 2010, as “National Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Day”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of a national day to raise public awareness and understanding of the congenital diaphragmatic hernia birth defect;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research into a cure for the congenital diaphragmatic hernia birth defect; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to support National Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Day through appropriate ceremonies and activities, to promote public awareness of the congenital diaphragmatic hernia birth defect, and to foster understanding of the impact of the disease on patients and their families.

#### HONORING BLACKSTONE VALLEY TOURISM COUNCIL

Mr. CASEY. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 468, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 468) honoring the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council on the celebration of its 25th anniversary.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CASEY. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 468) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 468

Whereas, on April 8, 2010, the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council will celebrate the 25th anniversary of its founding;

Whereas, since 1985, the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council has been at the forefront of sustainable destination development, community building, resiliency, education, and scholarly research;

Whereas the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council is a non-profit corporation registered as a 501(c)(3) educational organization and is authorized under Section 42-63.1-5 of the Rhode Island General Laws as the State-designated regional tourism development agency for the Blackstone Valley of Rhode Island;

Whereas the development region of the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council follows

the length and width of the Blackstone River Watershed, from the many tributaries in southern Massachusetts, to the end of the river at the headwaters of the Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island;

Whereas the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council represents the Rhode Island cities of Pawtucket, Central Falls, and Woonsocket, and towns of Cumberland, Lincoln, North Smithfield, Smithfield, Glocester, and Burrillville;

Whereas the Blackstone Valley is the birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution that began in 1790 in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, when Samuel Slater began textile manufacturing in a wooden mill on the banks of the Blackstone River;

Whereas, since its beginning, the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council has worked to develop, promote, and expand the economic and community development base for the cities and towns in the Blackstone Valley to create a viable visitor and cultural destination that preserves the historic heritage of the region;

Whereas the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council works as an interpreter and educator of the history and ecology of the Blackstone River, initiates ongoing international relationships of major importance to the region, provides input on future riverfront and economic development, and develops various recreational activities;

Whereas the work that the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council accomplishes benefits from its partnerships with local social and community development organizations, municipalities, regional and State economic development organizations, educational institutions, and National and international entities;

Whereas the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council was the first recipient of the Ulysses Prize from the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) that merits distinction for innovative contributions to tourism policy, sustainable tourism planning, environmental protection and new technologies, and in 2006, the Council received the UNWTO Sbest Certification in tourism governance, the only organization in the United States to earn this certification; and

Whereas, in 2008, the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) recognized the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council with its Tourism for Tomorrow Destination Award, a prestigious sustainable tourism development award, in recognition of the integrated, community-centered, resilient approach of the Council to tourism development and community building: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council on the celebration of its 25th anniversary; and

(2) wishes the Council continued success.

#### NATIONAL 9-1-1 EDUCATION MONTH

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 482 submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 482) designating April 2010 as “National 9-1-1 Education Month.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements related to the resolution be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 482) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 482

Whereas 9-1-1 is nationally recognized as the number to call in an emergency to receive immediate help from police, fire, emergency medical services, or other appropriate emergency response entities;

Whereas in 1967, the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice recommended that a “single number should be established” nationwide for reporting emergency situations, and other Federal Government agencies and various governmental officials also supported and encouraged the recommendation;

Whereas in 1968, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) announced that it would establish the digits 9-1-1 as the emergency code throughout the United States;

Whereas 9-1-1 was designated by Congress as the national emergency call number under the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-81; 113 Stat. 1286);

Whereas section 102 of the ENHANCE 911 Act of 2004 (47 U.S.C. 942 note) declared an enhanced 9-1-1 system to be “a high national priority” and part of “our Nation's homeland security and public safety”;

Whereas it is important that policy makers at all levels of government understand the importance of 9-1-1, how the system works today, and the steps that are needed to modernize the 9-1-1 system;

Whereas the 9-1-1 system is the connection between the eyes and ears of the public and the emergency response system in the United States and is often the first place emergencies of all magnitudes are reported, making 9-1-1 a significant homeland security asset;

Whereas more than 6,000 9-1-1 public safety answering points serve more than 3,000 counties and parishes throughout the United States;

Whereas dispatchers at public safety answering points answer more than 200,000,000 9-1-1 calls each year in the United States;

Whereas a growing number of 9-1-1 calls are made using wireless and Internet Protocol-based communications services;

Whereas a growing segment of the population, including the deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, and individuals with speech disabilities are increasingly communicating with nontraditional text, video, and instant messaging communications services and expect those services to be able to connect directly to 9-1-1;

Whereas the growth and variety of means of communication, including mobile and Internet Protocol-based systems, impose challenges for accessing 9-1-1 and implementing an enhanced 9-1-1 system and require increased education and awareness about the capabilities of different means of communication;

Whereas numerous other N-1-1 and 800 number services exist for nonemergency situations, including 2-1-1, 3-1-1, 5-1-1, 7-1-1, 8-